

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Black Hills Reptile Gardens in Rapid City, South Dakota, was founded in 1937 by South Dakota native, Earl Brockelsby; and,

Whereas, Earl showed true South Dakota entrepreneurial spirit in building Reptile Gardens into an internationally known attraction; and,

Whereas, Reptile Gardens has provided entertainment and education to millions of visitors for 80 years; and,

Whereas, Reptile Gardens is recognized in the Guinness Book of World Records for having the largest reptile collection of any zoo in the world; and,

Whereas, Reptile Gardens outstanding staff is known for providing first-rate customer service to South Dakota visitors; and,

Whereas, Reptile Gardens has been awarded Family Business of the Year by the Prairie States Family Business Association in 2009, the Small Business Administration Family-Owned Business of the Year for South Dakota in 2010, and the Tom Didier Excellence in Family Business Award in 2008; and,

Whereas, Reptile Gardens was named by USA Today as one of the top 10 roadside attractions in the country in 2001; and,

Whereas, Over the years, Reptile Gardens has provided the first opportunity for employment for thousands of young people:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 17, 2017, as

REPTILE GARDENS DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Dennis Daugaard
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State